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ABSTRACT

This book offers a personal account of a phenomenon largely ignored until recently: functional illiteracy--a condition that affects millions in the industrialized world. The book looks at functional illiterates in industrialized countries throughout the world, recounts their stories, and describes efforts to overcome and eliminate functional literacy. It is critical of bureaucracies that have ignored the problem and regards many of the attempts that have been made as fruitless. It points to newer methods of holistic education as more promising and warns that industrialized countries must deal with the problem now in order to stave off economic crisis when the baby-boom generation retires. The book ends with 99 reference notes. (KC)

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